



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
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[www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth)



Eligibility Operations Memo 08-02  
February 15, 2008

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff  
FROM: Russ Kulp, Director, MassHealth Operations  
RE: **Medex Premium Rate Increase**

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### Introduction

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts has received approval from the Division of Insurance on the following premium rates for all of its nongroup Medex plans: Medex Gold, Medex Silver, Medex Standard, Medex Basic, Medex Bronze, Medex Core, and Medex Core Plus, effective March 3, 2008.

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### Rate Changes and PACES Codes

The Medex plans, PACES codes, old and new quarterly rates, and new monthly premiums appear in the chart below. The new monthly premium is the amount allowed as a patient-paid amount (PPA) deduction after other deductions that get priority under our regulations at 130 CMR 520.026. Fees for special billing arrangements that cause a premium to exceed these amounts are not allowable PPA deductions.

**Important:** Correct usage of PACES codes prevents values greater than the maximum premium amount from being entered. Workers can enter an amount that is less than the current maximum premium amount to calculate a retroactive PPA.

Medex Plan	PACES Code	Old Quarterly Rate	New Quarterly Rate	New Monthly Premium
Gold	3	\$1,949.85	\$2,029.59	\$676.53
Silver	8	\$1,474.89	\$1,494.30	\$498.10
Standard	4	\$1,385.37	\$1,433.79	\$477.93
Basic	1	\$1,016.91	\$1,053.45	\$351.15
Bronze	2	\$471.84	\$487.95	\$162.65
Core	7	\$266.43	\$263.16	\$87.72
Core Plus	6	\$486.45	\$474.96	\$158.32

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**Rate Changes and  
PACES Codes  
(cont.)**

Medex Basic, Gold, Silver, Core Plus, and Standard Plans are closed to new members. The monthly premiums for Medex Core and Core Plus have decreased for 2008.

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**System Changes**

**Community MassHealth members** with Medex coding will be updated with the new premium amounts for both MA21 and PACES.

**Long-term-care MassHealth members** with Medex coding will also be updated with the new premium amounts by the system. MassHealth will recalculate their PPAs in March for March 2008.

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**PPA Notices**

During the month of April, MassHealth will mail system-generated notices containing information about the new PPAs to affected long-term-care members, conservators, and nursing facilities.

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**Reports**

The PACES system will issue the following two reports about the Medex premium rate increase.

- The first report will list updated long-term-care members with their old and new Medex premiums and old and new PPAs.
  - The second report will be an update-exception report that identifies members with Medex premiums on file that do not correspond to the Medex plan for which the member is coded.
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**Questions**

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.

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